

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION OPR-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 NEA-10 ADP-00 M-03 A-01 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 SY-07 RSR-01 SS-15

NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12 OC-06 CCO-00 PM-09 /128 W
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R 120625 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 886

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY DJAKARTA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

CINCPAC

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 3482

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, AMER- CB

SUBJECT: EVACUATION OF FOREIGN EMBASSY PERSONNEL FROM PHNOM PENH

REF: TOKYO 4375

1. SUMMARY. THE BRITISH, JAPANESE AND AUSTRALIAN EMBASSIES HAVE EVACUATED FAMILIES AND IN THE AUSTRALIAN CASE SOME STAFF MEMBERS. THE INDONESIANS ARE CONSIDERING THIS SEPT AND THE FRENCH ARE FOR THE MOMENT STANDING FAST. END SUMMARY.

2. THE BRITISH EMBASSY TODAY EVACUATED WIVES OF OFFICIAL PERSONNEL WITH SMALL CHILDREN. FIVE FAMILIES WERE AFFECTED. MOST WILL BE GOING TO THAILAND WHERE THEY MAY REMAIN FOR 28 DAYS BEFORE MAKING A DEFINITE DECISION ON RESIDENCE. OTHER WIVES HAVE BEEN PERMITTED TO REMAIN, THE BRITISH HAVE CITED DISCOMFORT CAUSED BY FUEL AND ELECTRICITY SHORTAGES AND NOT THE SECURITY SITUATION AS THE REASON FOR THIS MOVE.

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3. THE JAPANESE EMBASSY INFORMED US THAT ALL WIVES (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ONE CAMBODIAN) AND CHILDREN OF EMBASSY OFFICIALS WERE EVACUATED AS OF APRIL 12. MOST OF THESE FAMILIES WILL REMAIN IN BANGKOK FOR ABOUT TWO WEEKS TO SEE HOW THE SITUATION HERE PROGRESSES.

4. THE AUSTRALIAN CHARGE D' AFFAIRES HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED BY CANBERRA TO EVACUATE ALL DEPENDENTS AND NON- ESSENTIAL STAFF. INCLUDED IN THE LATTER CATEGORY ARE SNOWY MOUNTAIN TECHNICIANS WORKING ON THE PREK THNOT PROJECT. THE EMBASSY STAFF WILL BE REDUCED TO AROUND 8 PEOPLE INCLUDING SECRETARIES. CANBERRA IN THIS REGARD OVERRULED ITS CHARGE, WHO HAD RECOMMENDED THAT THE AUSTRALIANS FOLLOW THE BRITISH EXAMPLE. MOST OF THE EVACUEES ARE, WE UNDERSTAND, GOING TO SINGAPORE OR RETURNING TO AUSTRALIA.

5. THE INDONESIAN CHARGE D' AFFAIRES TOLD US LAST NIGHT THAT HE MUST SOON MAKE DECISION ON WHETHER TO EVACUATE CHILDREN (NUMBERING 34) AND MOTHERS. WE RECEIVED IMPRESSION THAT HE IS NOW INCLINED NOT TO ORDER AN EVACUATION. WE UNDERSTAND INDIANS ARE AS YET ALSO UNDECIDED.

6. THE FRENCH CHARGE D' AFFAIRES INDICATED LAST NIGHT THAT HIS EMBASSY WILL NOT EVACUATE DEPENDENTS AT THIS TIME. HE NOTED THAT FRENCH HOMES ARE CONCENTRATED IN AN AREA WHICH HAS HAD RELATIVELY LITTLE SHORTAGE OF ELECTRICITY. SWANK

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PHNOM03482
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: PHNOM PENH
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730441/aaaaijeu.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION OPR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 TOKYO 4375
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17-Aug-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <23-Nov-2001 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980105
Subject: EVACUATION OF FOREIGN EMBASSY PERSONNEL FROM PHNOM PENH
TAGS: PINS, CB
To: CANBERRA
CINCPAC
DJAKARTA
NEW DELHI
OPR
PARIS
SECSTATE WASHDC

TOKYO
WASHDC

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005